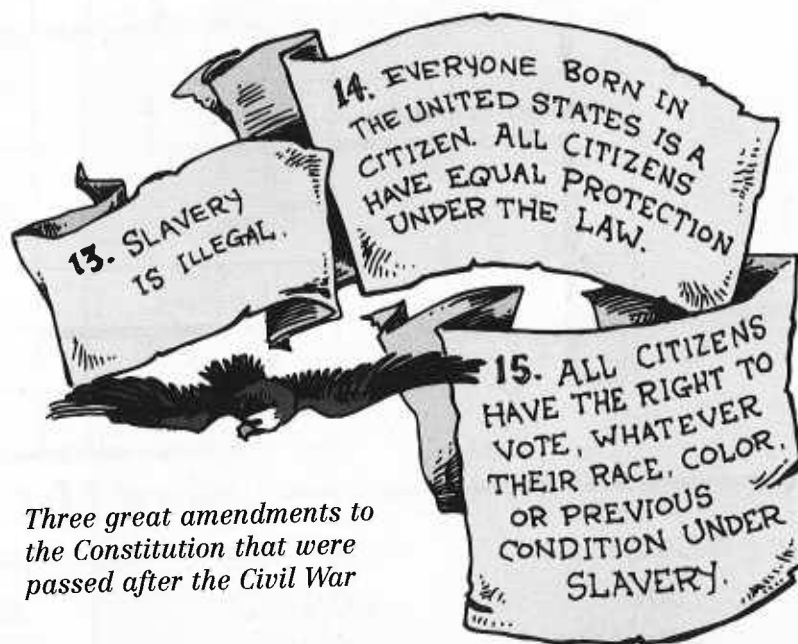


Reconstruction

Reconstruction means, "rebuilding." After the Civil War, the president and Congress struggled over the best way to rebuild the South. President Andrew Johnson put in place a plan of reconstruction that allowed states of the old Confederacy to rejoin the Union easily. Soon most Southern states had passed laws called the black codes, which kept freedmen (former slaves) from voting, assembling, or working at many jobs. Congress did establish a Freedmen's Bureau to help the former slaves. The bureau founded over 4,000 schools in five years. Adults often attended these schools along with the children to learn how to read and write.

Congress grew angry over the way the new state governments were treating the freedmen. It passed amendments to the Constitution to guarantee citizens' rights. When some states refused to accept the amendments, Congress sent the army back to the South to enforce them. Congress also passed Reconstruction Acts in 1867 that required real changes. Under the acts, new representatives were elected in the South, including the first African Americans in government. The new state governments raised taxes to pay for rebuilding, though some of the money went into the pockets of selfish politicians. Northerners came south to help with the reconstruction—or to make a profit. White Southerners named them all after the cheap suitcase of the day—carpetbaggers.

By 1877, Reconstruction had died out in the South. Why? White Southerners in general resented Reconstruction bitterly. Some people were making unfair profits from it. And Congress lost interest. Then, violence by secret groups like the Ku Klux Klan kept African Americans from voting or getting good jobs. Many black people lived in poverty as sharecroppers, working the land for a share of the crop. Most of them were always paying off debts—money borrowed so they could live until harvest time.



Three great amendments to the Constitution that were passed after the Civil War

1. After the Civil War ended, many men were unemployed because they were discharged from the _____
2. People who worked the land for a share of the crops were called _____
3. The _____ Bureau was established to help former slaves find work and adjust to freedom
4. The _____ had a harder time than the North recovering from the War.
5. African Americans had new _____
6. The Reconstruction Acts in 1867 were passed by _____ to make real changes.
7. Many people struggled with _____ because the economy was bad.
8. The people who came to take advantage of the South's poor economy were called _____
9. Changes in the Constitution are called _____
10. Most African Americans experienced _____ because it was hard to get work and money.
11. Some people in the _____ wanted to punish the South for rebelling.
12. The president who put into place reconstruction was _____

List the state and capital that goes with the abbreviation:

STATE	CAPITAL	USE SHEET
WV _____	_____	_____
TX _____	_____	_____
TN _____	_____	_____
SC _____	_____	_____
NC _____	_____	_____
MS _____	_____	_____
LA _____	_____	_____
KY _____	_____	_____
GA _____	_____	_____
AR _____	_____	_____
AL _____	_____	_____

Word List

AMENDMENTS
ARMY
CARPETBAGGERS

CONFEDERACY
CONGRESS
DEBTS

FREEDMEN
JOHNSON
POVERTY

RIGHTS
SHARECROPPERS
UNION